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From: Letang, Chris (SOLGEN)
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 3:41 PM
To: DiTommaso, Mario (SOLGEN); Stubbings, Richard (SOLGEN)
Cc: Abdi, Fuad (MCM); Unfried, Christa (SOLGEN)
Subject: Strategic Update - Freedom Convoy 2022

Deputy and Rick,

Background

A nationwide campaign ("Truckers Slow Roll Across Canada") has been organized amongst anti-mandate truckers to slow down highway traffic across Canada beginning January 23, 2022. The campaign has been organized in response to the federal mandate that took effect January 15, 2022 requiring all commercial truck drivers entering Canada to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. The intent of these actions is to impede the movement of traffic and goods in Canada, and possibly disrupt the business of government at the provincial and federal levels in order to compel the Canadian to left COVID-19 mandates and restrictions.

Slow-rolling blockades on major Canadian highways, including at or near border points have been designated by organizers as "FREEDOM CONVOY 2022" and "OPERATION BEARHUG". Aside from the planned, main convoy activity, truck drivers are also encouraged to park their trucks wherever they happen to be in order to impede traffic and the movement of goods, conduct smaller slow-rolling protests at border crossings or to conduct local "mini convoys" for drivers who are not able to join the convoy to Ottawa.

Information indicates that some organizers are promoting the event as a safe, lawful, and peaceful protest, while other individuals appear to be advocating aggressive tactics, including potentially blocking Parliament Hill once they reach Ottawa or "locking down" government buildings by parking their trucks outside provincial government buildings for extended periods of time.

A GoFundMe page created to solicit and process financial donations to support convoy participants has raised almost \$571,000 since January 15, 2022.

Estimates vary on the actual number of drivers that will be unable to transit the Canada-US border as a result of the vaccination mandate. Open source notes the federal mandate affects upwards of 10% of the 120,000 Canadian truckers who traverse the US-Canada border. The Canadian Trucking Alliance (CTA) estimates 22,000 drivers may leave the industry. According to an anonymous survey conducted by the Private Motor Truck Council of Canada (PMTTC), a lobby group for the trucking industry, 31,000 truckers could leave the industry as a result of the mandate. PMTC has expressed support for vaccination mandates and has advocated for an implementation delay until Spring 2022.

The CTA issued a statement condemning trucking protests that disrupted the Canada-US border crossing in Emerson, Manitoba on January 17, 2022. In the statement, the CTA expressed its strong disapproval of protests on public roadways, highways and bridges that interfere with public safety.

Assessment

The noted convoys commencing January 23, 2022 may disrupt the movement of vehicular traffic and goods in Ontario and strain the capacity of law enforcement in the province. Supporters of the initiative may impede vehicular traffic at the local level. Online indicators of attendance for the event may be inflated with fewer people actually participating, however the success of fundraising initiatives associated with the convoy indicate supporters are financially invested. This suggests that these convoys could see a greater proportion of the online support translate into real-life support than might otherwise be expected.

Industry associations and trucking companies appear to be broadly opposed to the planned blockades. Fear of the consequences of misusing company trucks for convoy or blockade activity, or of extended absences from work in order to participate in the activities may serve to suppress attendance. The ability of trucking companies to monitor the location of their trucks to address misuse is varied and could be further limited if protestors opt to participate in their personal vehicles.

Updates continue to be provided through provincial-wide joint intelligence groups. The Ontario Provincial Police is coordinating information and awareness to potentially affected jurisdictions.

Expected Convoy Routes in Ontario:

Kenora to Thunder Bay – January 26, 2022:

- Departing Kenora 0900 hrs
- Scheduled stop in Ignace (1200 hrs)
- Arriving Thunder Bay 1600 hrs

Thunder Bay to Sault Ste. Marie – January 27, 2022:

- Departing Thunder Bay 0700 hrs
- Scheduled stops in Terrance Bay (0830 hrs); Wawa (1530 hrs)
- Arriving Sault Ste. Marie 1900 hrs

Sault Ste. Marie to Arnprior – January 28, 2022:

- Departing Sault Ste Marie 0600 hrs
- Scheduled stops in Blind River (0800 hrs); Sudbury (1030 hrs); North Bay (1300 hrs); Pembroke (1630 hrs)
- Arriving Arnprior 1800 hrs

Arnprior to Ottawa – 2022-01-29:

Departing Arnprior 1100 hrs
Arriving Ottawa 1200 hrs

Windsor to Kingston – January 28, 2022:

- Departing Windsor at 0530 hrs
- Scheduled stops in Chatham (0630 hrs); London (0800 hrs); Drumbo (1000 hrs); Port Hope (1400 hrs)
- Arriving Kingston 1700 hrs

Sarnia to Kingston – January 28, 2022:

- Departing Sarnia 0700 hrs
- Scheduled stops in London (0800 hrs); Drumbo (1000 hrs); Port Hope (1400 hrs)
- Arriving Kingston 1700 hrs

Fort Erie to Kingston – January 28, 2022:

- Departing Fort Erie 0730 hrs
- Scheduled stops in “Niagara” 1 (0800 hrs); Hamilton (0930 hrs); Port Hope (1400 hrs)
- Arriving Kingston 1700 hrs

Toronto to Kingston – January 28, 2022:

- Departing Toronto 1200 hrs
- Scheduled stops in Port Hope (1400 hrs)
- Arriving Kingston (1700 hrs)

Kingston to Ottawa – January 29, 2022:

- Departing Kingston 0830 hrs
- Scheduled stop in Spencerville (1000 hrs)
- Arriving Ottawa 1200 hrs

Cornwall to Ottawa – January 29, 2022:

- Departing Cornwall 1000 hrs
- Arriving Ottawa 1200 hrs

Vankleek Hill to Ottawa – January 29, 2022:

- Departing Vankleek Hill 1030 hrs
- Arriving Ottawa 1200 hrs

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